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Regional Briefs

Norway, April 12 (R)—U.S. Vice-President Walter Mondale in Norway tomorrow, is expected to ask the Norwegian government to supply North Sea oil to Israel. Israeli Prime Minister Begin asked Norway last December to supply oil, but was refused because of prior long-term contracts. Last month the U.S. also made a request for Israel's support of President Carter's Middle East peace plan. Norwegian government said it would reconsider, but is reluctant to make a direct commitment to Israel, impact it could have on Norwegian exports to Arab countries. A government spokesman said yesterday that Mr. Mondale would not expect an answer during his talks in Oslo on Tuesday with Prime Minister Odvar Nordli. Oil and Minister Bjartmar Gjerde, originally due to visit Iraq, Syria and Kuwait next week, has postponed his trip to the Mondale talks.

TUNIS, April 12 (R)—Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim expressed deep concern at the "recurrent cycle of violence" prevailing in the Middle East and appealed to all to exercise the utmost restraint. His statement, issued by U.N. spokesman, was apparently directed at the recent Palestinian bombings and Israeli air strikes, as well as rocket and artillery exchanges along the border. "Apart from the loss of innocent life and destruction this entails on both sides, it inevitably makes a search for comprehensive settlement of the problem," the statement said.

April 12 (R)—Cuban Transport Minister Antonio Maceo arrived here today to convey a message to the Emir of Saudi Arabia. The agency said Maceo was received by Bahrain Foreign Minister Muhammad Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa and the meeting was Bahrain Transport Minister Ibrahim Homaidan. The message was not disclosed.

April 12 (R)—Kuwait and Liberia say that a permanent Middle East peace could not be achieved without a withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, including the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights and the right of their own independent state. In a joint statement last night after a two-day visit to Kuwait by Liberian William Tolbert, the two countries also said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Kuwait and Liberia also safeguarding security and stability in the Gulf was the responsibility of the region's countries without any foreign interference. The statement said. It added the two countries reaffirmed their support for African peoples struggling against colonialism and racial minorities. The statement said the "Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah" accepted President Maceo's invitation to visit Liberia at a date to be fixed later.

TUNIS, April 12 (R)—Senegalese army chief of staff, General Cisse, today expressed concern to Secretary-General Waldheim about the trial in Israel of a Senegalese accused of smuggling arms to Palestinian U.N. spokesman said. He said Gen. Cisse, at a meeting with Mr. Waldheim, voiced concern that Israel had a soldier over to the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon, which he is serving, to be dealt with if necessary by the authorities. The case concerns warrant officer, who was arrested while on duty in Israel several days ago. He was accused of bringing in explosives. A U.N. legal officer, Prieto, has been sent to observe his trial.

April 12 (R)—A Qatari government official today denied justice department allegations that he had been lured by two U.S. oil company officials to get an oil loan. Mr. Ali Jaidah, director-general of the General Petroleum, said in a statement: "There is no truth at all which is baseless." The U.S. government filed a suit on April 9 under the 1977 foreign corruption laws that the two oil company men made the payment. Roy Carver, chairman and president of the corporation, and R. Eugene Holley, former Holley's justice department said the money was paid into a bank account in 1976 to Mr. Jaidah, then Qatar's attorney. Mr. Jaidah said today the company had an allegation to cover up its failure to meet contractual oil exploration in Qatar, which led the government to contract.

April 12 (R)—Indonesian Vice-President Adam Malik in Ankara today from Baghdad for a four-day guest of Turkish Premier Bülent Ecevit. In the press, Mr. Malik said his visit to Turkey was strengthening the bonds of friendship between the two countries and expanding economic cooperation. Turkish Ecevit said "there are no problems between our countries and there is every opportunity of developing our areas." Mr. Malik, who is due to meet Turkey's Prime Minister tomorrow, will then fly to the western city of Ankara for a sight-seeing tour before leaving the country on April 13.

April 12 (R)—Kuwait is to give Sudan a six million (about \$22 million) loan to help finance a sugar project. Sudanese News Agency (SUNA) said today. The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development has approved the loan which would finance 70 per cent of setting up the Kenana sugar company, it added. The foreign ministry announced yesterday that West Germany had three finance agreements with Sudan including a repayment of previous loans totalling 1,434 million (\$754 million). The two other agreements covered a billion marks (about \$21 million) for the purchase of 100 economic development and a further grant of 1.5 million (\$7.5 million) to finance ships built in West Germany. The ministry said West Germany also promised a million marks (about \$45 million) aid for particular projects and other forms of technical cooperation.

April 12 (R)—Three Japanese firms have received a contract from Tunisia to buy a big cement plant worth \$140 million. Kawasaki Heavy Industries Limited is the order from Societe des Industries Cimentaires. The order for the Japanese group to build the plant in a strict, about 100 kilometers southeast of Tunis, by Kawasaki said. The plant will have an annual capacity of one million tonnes.

April 12 (R)—A Bahrain national gas company has been established here today with a capital of eight million dinars (about \$20 million). It was announced by News Agency that the Bahrain National Oil Company would own 75 per cent of Banasgas, the Arab Investment Corporation (Apricorp) 12.5 per cent and Petroleum Company (Bapco) a Caltex subsidiary. Banasgas will own and market the products of a gas liquification factory under construction here at a cost of 100 million dinars (about \$100 million).

Iran denies pledge to aid Palestinians

TEHRAN, April 12 (Agencies)—Iranian government spokesman Abbas Amir Entezam said Thursday that Iran has made no commitment to provide military assistance to the Palestine Liberation Organisation or to employ Palestinian experts in the Iranian military or security services.

"While we shall continue supporting the Palestinian cause in all international organisations and meetings, Iran has not given any undertakings to the PLO to provide them with arms and ammunition," he said in response to questions.

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, Iran's revolutionary leader, met with PLO leader Yasser Arafat in Teheran on Feb. 17, six days after the revolution. The Ayatollah is an outspoken supporter of the Palestinian cause but he said at that time "we will turn to the issue of victory over Israel" after the Iranian government rebuilds the nation from the era of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

Mr. Entezam also said the government was reviewing its policy towards PLO activities in Iran.

He said, "our warm and friendly welcome for the Palestinians could have caused some misunderstanding for them as far as their stand and activities in Iran are concerned."

In Hamburg, West Germany, Iranian Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan said in an interview published today he supported the death sentences passed by revolutionary courts in Iran.

Asked by the mass circulation newspaper *Bild Zeitung* when the executions would end, Dr. Bazargan replied: "That is a matter for the courts. We don't know our noses into that. But I hope these revolutionary courts will end within a year and our justice ministry will then take over the work."

Asked if his government or religious leader Ayatollah Khomeini

Tight security marks Easter celebrations in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 12 (R)—Israeli security forces were out in strength in the old city of Jerusalem today as Christian pilgrims poured in to celebrate the Easter festival.

As Christian pilgrims from throughout the world streamed into the city, Israelis celebrated the Jewish Passover feast, again amid stringent security precautions. The Passover holiday, which lasts a week, commemorates the flight of the Israelites from Egypt.

Christians of all denominations will take part in tomorrow's Good Friday high mass processions.

Pope departs from tradition in Easter rite

VATICAN CITY, April 12 (R)—Pope John Paul II gathered 2,500 priests in St. Peter's basilica today for the Easter choral mass in a bold departure from tradition to tell his message to all priests that they must keep their vows.

The choral mass, in which oil for baptism is blessed and priests annually renew their vows, is traditionally celebrated in Rome by the Pope's cardinal representative.

But Vatican officials said Pope John Paul II chose to celebrate the service himself during his busy Easter programme to stress his role as Bishop of Rome and head of the clergy.

The Polish-born Pontiff, drawing record numbers of pilgrims in a show of popularity, continued his Easter schedule tonight with a ceremony when he washed the feet of 12 mentally handicapped people.

The rite, celebrated each year in the Roman basilica of St. John Lateran, commemorates the Last Supper, at which Christ washed the feet of his disciples.

On Good Friday, when all Christian churches mark the crucifixion of Christ, the Pope will say a mass in St. Peter's basilica and then in the evening he will carry a cross in a torchlight procession near the Rome Colosseum.

Israeli gunners shell Nabatiyeh for third day

BEIRUT, April 12 (R)—Israeli gunners shelled a Palestinian stronghold in southern Lebanon today for the third day running and two children were killed, the Palestinian News Agency (WAFA) reported. It quoted a military spokesman as saying that a number of people were wounded and property was heavily damaged by the shelling of Nabatiyeh and neighbouring villages.

Rashidiyeh refugee camp near the port city of Tyre also came under artillery bombardment, WAFA said. It added that Israeli planes flew high over the southern region but were repelled by ground fire.

The deaths of the two children brought to 12 the number of people reported killed in the past three days. WAFA said earlier that the commandos and their allies had been put on full alert after artillery duels yesterday and Tuesday.

The fighting started after Palestinian bomb attack in Tel Aviv's central market on Tuesday. Israeli planes raided the Lebanese coastal towns of Damour and Tyre the same day and this was followed by commando rocket attacks on Israeli border areas.

At the United Nations, Lebanon complained to Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim yesterday about new Israeli attacks on its territory, and reserved the right to call for an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider the situation.

Lebanese Ambassador Ghassan Tueni said the Israeli actions prejudiced prospects for obtaining a comprehensive Middle East peace settlement.

Israel also protested to Dr. Waldheim over Tuesday's bomb explosion in a Tel Aviv market which it said killed one person and injured 28 others.

In his letter, Israeli U.N. Representative Yehuda Blum said this was the latest of a series of incidents for which the PLO had acknowledged responsibility and which, since the beginning of the year, had resulted in the death of seven civilians and injury to 169.

WASHINGTON, April 12 (Agencies)—A senior official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation said today the PLO could not consider joining U.S.-backed Middle East negotiations unless

the planning stage.

He was commenting on reports that attribute the postponement to Saudi displeasure with a programme entitled "The Holy Land and Japan" and to American proposals that Japan increase its aid to Egypt and Israel following the recent signing of the peace agreement.

The postponement followed Arab protests over alleged anti-Arab bias in a recent television programme about the Middle East and concern over proposed increases in Japanese aid to Egypt.

But a foreign ministry spokesman said Saudi Arabia did not mention either controversy and noted that the visit by the crown prince, who is also first deputy prime minister, had only been in the planning stage.

He was commenting on reports that attribute the postponement to Saudi displeasure with a programme entitled "The Holy Land and Japan" and to American proposals that Japan increase its aid to Egypt and Israel following the recent signing of the peace agreement.

The visiting official, who said he could not be identified under the terms of his U.S. visa, told reporters the Camp David framework signed last September were unacceptable because they failed to say how Palestinian rights would be fulfilled.

Although the official was not identified, his appearance coincided with the presence in Washington of PLO spokesman Shafiq Al Hout.

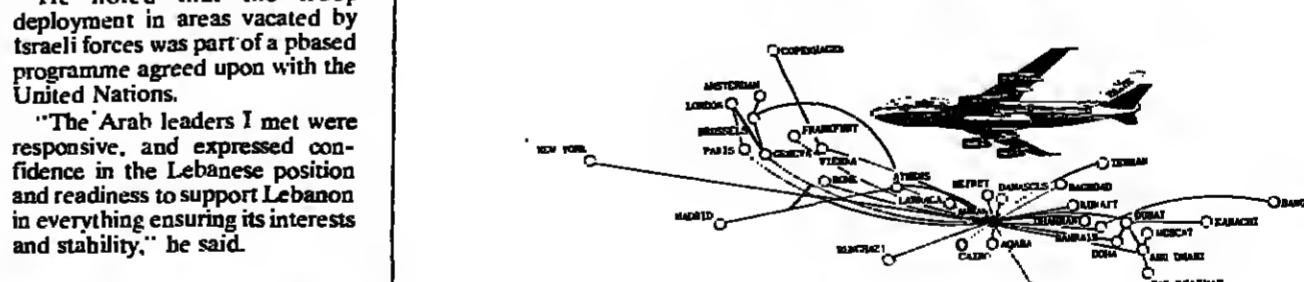
Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said yesterday that Mr. Al Hout's three-week visa— which Israel has publicly objected to—restricted

him to academic meetings.

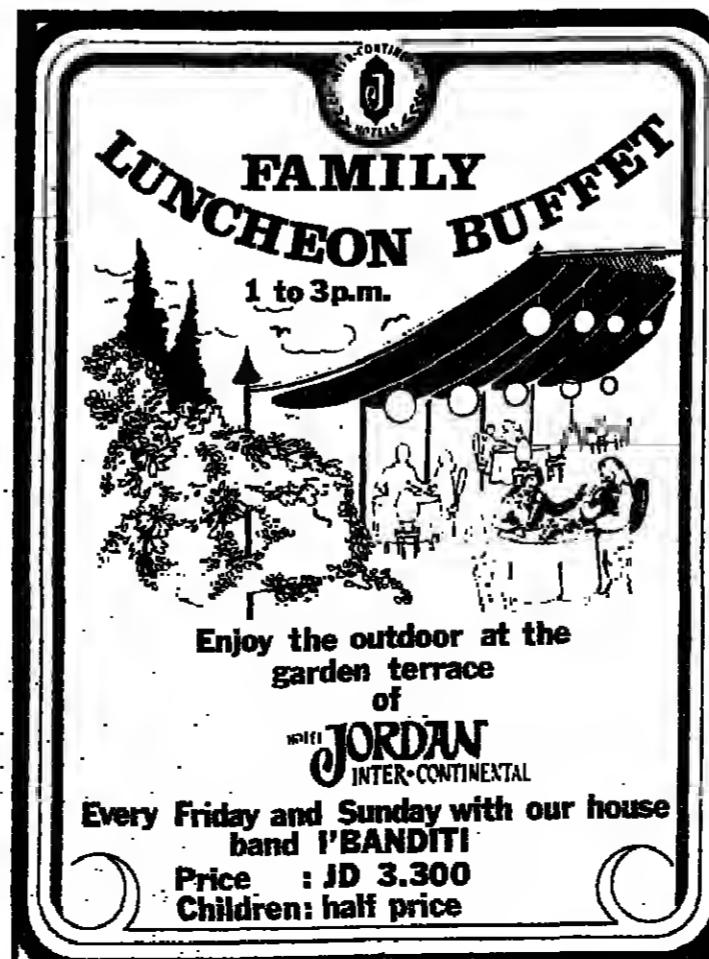
The PLO official said that because the United States was not willing to stipulate what outcome it favoured in the talks on the West Bank and Gaza, the PLO wanted the United Nations to preside over negotiations with U.N. resolutions as a basis.

The official, speaking at a breakfast sponsored by Foreign Policy magazine, said the PLO wanted Israel withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza, U.N. guarantees of Palestinian self-determination and a transition period of two or three years under U.N. supervision.

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South Africa to expel U.S. diplomats

CAPE TOWN, April 12 (R)—South Africa is expelling a number of senior American diplomats for spying from the U.S. ambassador's official aircraft, Prime Minister Pieter Botha told a specially-convened press conference tonight. He said the government had discovered that an aircraft, cleared for use by the ambassador while carrying out his diplomatic duties, had been converted and used as a spy plane. Mr. Botha described the U.S. actions as a grave violation of South African sovereignty. "Photographs in our possession reveal that the embassy aircraft was engaged in a systematic programme of photography of vast areas of South Africa, including some of our most sensitive installations," he said. U.S. Ambassador William Edmondson had been informed that certain senior members of the embassy staff must leave the country within a week and that the privilege of maintaining the aircraft in South Africa had been withdrawn, the prime minister said.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Uganda urges 'Idi Amin hunt'

NAIROBI, April 12 (R)—"Hunt Idi Amin wherever he is," Uganda's new rulers urged the nation from Kampala today. "He deserves the gallows."

The appeal was broadcast on Uganda Radio, now under the control of Tanzanian-led forces which have captured President Kenneth Kaunda and driven him into hiding and announced the creation of a new government. The radio said Field Marshal Amin had committed many acts of treason and countless murders.

Uganda's new president, exiled Professor Yusufu Lule, 67, was trying to fly back to Uganda from Tanzania today, but Kampala Radio said he had been delayed by bad weather and told the crowds gathered to welcome him they should go home.

Kampala residents said that the Tanzanian army had opened the capital's prisons and freed about 4,000 inmates.

President Kaunda called the downfall of Idi Amin a "triumph for freedom, justice and human dignity."

In Kampala, people went on an orgy of looting after the remnants of Field Marshal Amin's routed forces fled to eastern Uganda where the Tanzanians and anti-Amin Ugandan forces have not yet penetrated.

Some pro-Amin soldiers have been beaten to death in the streets, along with civilian members of the favoured Nubian group of tribes from Amin's native northwest Uganda.

A broadcast by the former "life president" first carried on the external transmitter of Uganda Radio last night, in which he called on his troops not to surrender, was repeated twice today.

As the shattered Amin army made its way into eastern Uganda a wave of looting and disorder hit towns like Jinja and Mbale. Residents spoke of gun battles, cars being stolen at gunpoint, shops being looted and civilians fleeing their home.

JORDAN TIMES

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GUEST EDITORIAL

Indecision

THE ARABS have boycotted Egypt and recalled their ambassadors from Cairo. President Sadat has threatened and warned the Palestinians against attacks on Egyptians and their interests and has reciprocated the Arab move by withdrawing his ambassadors from capitals opposed to his unilateral peace strategy.

What next?

It seems that the Arabs are destined to maintain and preserve a practice that has plagued them throughout their modern history.

While the Arab states are justified in their decision to impose sanctions against Egypt for signing a separate peace treaty with Israel, the move remains essentially a reaction to an event, and does not constitute a long-term plan or an alternative strategy. Recriminations and rhetoric have not, and cannot be a substitute for a sound strategy that would hopefully extricate the Arab world from a quagmire of its own making, albeit with outside "contribution". At the time the Baghdad conference was held, Arabs were hopeful that the meeting, while taking the necessary steps to minimise the impact of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, would act to map out a plan of action that would prevent a recurrence of the tragedy and offer the Arab world a chance to regroup and present itself as a driving force that can force itself to be heard in the international forums that act with an apparent monopoly on the fate of the region.

Peace, Egyptian style, has been rightly rejected, but what kind of peace strategy do the Arabs want? Branding countries and regimes as reactionary, imperialist and other similar descriptions makes for good newspaper copy and takes the edge off the bitterness and frustration felt by the average Arab, but it does not offer a solution.

The experiences with no-peace-no-war situations have shown beyond doubt that the area cannot sustain natural political and economic development in such a suspended state of anxiety. Stating the obvious, this reduces the choice the Arabs have to either peace or war. If the consensus is for peace, and there is every reason to believe that it is, the Arabs must declare openly and collectively whether their preference is for a Geneva-type conference under American, Soviet and/or European auspices or some other combination. The second choice, that of war, is becoming an extremely unlikely option, but should it be the only choice, the Arabs should prepare for it.

So far there is little indication that the Arabs are ready to make their inescapable choice.

—From the Arab News, Jeddah, April 8

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

COMMENTING ON the recent Israeli attacks against south Lebanon, AL RA'I Thursday describes the situation there as "extremely dangerous."

"The fate of the Camp David agreements, and the future of the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty will be determined" in that portion of the Arab World, the paper continues.

"We are not asking that southern Lebanon be turned into a battle field; rather, we are urging the Arabs to transform it into a field of steadfastness testing the Arabs' commitments to their issues."

Criticising the withdrawal of the contingents operating within the Arab Deterrent Force in Lebanon, the paper says: "A line must be drawn to distinguish between those who defend our issues and those who barter with the Arab cause. The conflict going on in southern Lebanon leaves no room for compromises or vague positions. This conflict has become a test of the Arab ability to stand fast against the Camp David conspiracy."

In conclusion the paper says: "Unless the Arabs succeed (in this test), the tripartite (U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli) coalition will penetrate deep into the Arab World, beginning with the south of Lebanon."

Criticising the rapprochement reached between Egypt and Israel, and the "indifferent" Egyptian stand concerning the recurring Israeli aggressions against the south of Lebanon and the establishment of settlements in the occupied territories, AL DUSTOUR says: "The Egyptian-Israeli practices directed against Palestine and the Palestinians are proceeding side by side." The beginning of the normalisation of relations between Egypt and Israel has not caused the Israeli incursions to stop," the paper notes.

It further criticises the hypocrisy manifested in the recent statements issued by both the Egyptian premier and the minister of state for foreign affairs. "Dr. Khalil insinuates that Egypt is committed to support Syria if it launches a war against Israel to restore the Golan Heights, later he backs down on his statement, only to be followed by Dr. Butros Ghali hypocritically stating that the Israeli policy of building settlements does not help lay the foundations of peace."

In conclusion, the paper wonders how to describe the Egyptian stand. "Is it a form of diplomacy of hypocrisy? Al Dustour wonders."

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National News Roundup

Imported materials for industry free of duty

AMMAN, April 12 (JNA) — The cabinet has accepted to exempt from duty all imported materials to be used for manufacturing purposes, or for re-export.

Amman street naming and numbering begun

AMMAN, April 12 (JNA) — Sources at Amman Municipality stated that its planning department has started naming and numbering the streets in the first area (city centre) and that this operation is expected to be completed within two weeks. The sources added that this was done to enable the citizens to identify areas and quarters of the capital.

"Rivers of Babylon" banned

AMMAN, April 12 (JNA) — A record named "Rivers of Babylon" made by the American pop group "Boney M" has been banned from entering Jordan. The record is understood to contain Israeli propaganda and its words to be linked with Zionist aims.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Photo Exhibit

The Soviet Cultural Centre presents an exhibition of photos on "The Development of Space Research in the Soviet Union". The exhibit can be seen during regular hours.

Geographic Exhibit

The French Cultural Centre is displaying an exhibition of maps and topographical equipment organised by the Jordan National Geographic Centre and the French Mapping Group. The exhibit is open during regular hours.

Concert

The American Centre presents a violin-piano concert by Henry Criz (violin) and Ljubomir Gasparovic (piano) at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Ballroom at 8:00 p.m.

Children's Choir

The Soviet Cultural Centre and the Jordan University Alumni Club present a concert by the children's choir of the Haya Arts Centre at the Centre branch in Ruseifa at 4:30 p.m.

French Film

The French Cultural Centre presents a film by Jacques Ertaud entitled "La tule a loup" at 7:30 p.m. French version with Arabic subtitles.

Masquerade Party

The YWCA is holding a children's masquerade party to celebrate Easter. Children participating should bring a toy to give away to underprivileged children. The party starts at 4:30 p.m.

Voluntary society urges concerted effort to curb rising accident rate

By Sara O'Neil
Special to the Jordan Times.

AMMAN, April 12 -- The untimely death this week of the Director of Public Security, Maj. Gen. Ghazi Arabyat, in a car accident, serves as yet another tragic reminder of the ever increasing number of road accidents which occur daily in Jordan. The Jordan Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents was formed to help combat the chronic traffic problem which is not only claiming the lives of Jordan's citizens but also harming their economic, social and physical well-being.

The Jordan Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents, which held its third annual meeting last week, was founded in 1975 by a few civic minded individuals who had become very concerned by the lack of safety on Jordan's roads. This may suggest an alarming increase in motor vehicle deaths in the near future if motor vehicle travel continues to increase rapidly. The yearly increase in vehicles on the road being in the region of 30 per cent, the present number of vehicles on the road could be doubled within the next three years, a horrifying prospect for any country.

The traffic safety problem of Jordan must be addressed in three areas... education, enforcement, and engineering. Mr. Khouri was full of praise for various authorities involved, in particular the traffic police for their initiative in enforcing traffic laws, which has resulted, for instance, in the clearing of downtown Amman of parked cars in recent months, thus allowing for an easier flow of traffic. The Traffic Engineering Department of the Municipality has also been very active, as the director of the department, Mr. Akram Hindiyeh, who is also a member of the society's administrative board, explained.

The introduction of a number of one way streets has helped reduce accidents; for example, at Abdali, where the elimination of four intersections has at the same time eliminated five or six accidents daily. The one and a half kilometre-long main street in Jahal Hussein was until recently the scene of five to seven accidents daily, caused chiefly by cars joining the stream of traffic from the left. These intersection accidents have been completely eliminated by erecting an island down the middle of the road, he said.

However cooperation by the authorities has not managed to outweigh the indifference of the general public, whose attitude is seen as a main obstacle to improving the standards on the roads. As Mr. Khouri sees it, the problem of road accidents is not simply one of so many people killed every month but a "major impediment of economic and social development in the country. Jordan is now passing through the worst symbols of a consumer society. It is a sign

Yugoslavia, Jordan sign economic protocol

'Jordan, PLO: same tactics, same objectives'

By Serene R. Farraj
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, April 12 (JNA) — Jordan and Yugoslavia signed here today a protocol for boosting trade and economic ties between the two countries.

According to the protocol, the two countries agree to increase the volume of trade exchanged between them—particularly increasing the amount of Jordanian phosphate exported to Yugoslavia; the launching of joint economic ventures in Jordan and the establishment of a Jordanian commercial centre in Belgrade and a Yugoslav commercial centre in Amman.

The protocol also provides for an exchange of expertise and technical skill between the two countries, especially in the field of mining, irrigation and the construction of dams. In addition it grants Yugoslavia a concession to prospect for petroleum and natural gas in Jordan.

The protocol signed for Jordan by Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Nijmaddin Dajani and for Yugoslavia by visiting Finance Minister Petar Kostic.

Gen. Arabyat buried in Salt

AMMAN, April 12 (JNA) — The body of the late Maj. Gen. Ghazi Arabyat, Director of the Public Security Directorate, who died in a car accident yesterday was buried with full military honours today at his home town of Salt.

The coffin was wrapped with the Jordanian flag and was carried to the town cemetery on a gun carriage.

Taking part in the prayers at the town mosque and later in the funeral was His Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Regent who later offered his condolences to the Arabyat family.

Also taking part in the funeral were Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, cabinet members, senior government officials and high ranking army officers.

There were divergent views offered on the relative worth of centralisation versus decentralisation in economic planning; but most participants expressed approval of plans by Jordan and Syria to build up their infrastructure, which the two countries have already done in road building, electricity, and intermediate industry.

In contrast, participants criticised the sudden and excessive concentration on heavy industry in some countries which is initiated without previous consideration to social conditions being given. Crown Prince Hassan, as well as several other participants stressed the importance of economic integration among Arab states.

Another topic discussed today was education, and participants called for further development of vocational training and the full employment of the women's labour force in the Arab world to take place in step with economic and social development.

On Friday, the participants will take a break from conference activities to visit Petra with their wives.

The third session of the conference, to be held on Saturday, will be on the theme of "Social, Legal and Cultural Values in the Arab World."

Palestinians in these areas. Mr. Abu Sitta described joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee set up by the Baghdad summit last year. The Palestinian team was in Amman on a two-day visit for talks with Jordanian officials. The delegation discussed ways and means of helping Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to resist Israeli occupation. Discussions also dealt with how to channel the \$150 million earmarked by the Baghdad summit conference last November for the

development of occupied territories.

As has constantly been done by government officials, no position is given without attaching and does not constitute a form of trusteeship, it is a form of assistance the grant which is dictated by circumstances.

Mr. Abu Sitta went on that Israel is trying to force integration of the economy within Israel, and it must preserve their independence to enable them to build their institutions.

He said the PLO was well positioned to build up a unified front in cooperation with Syria and Iraq; in their case front line states, with a report from the rest of the world.

With this bloc, and with support of the PLO, we are about a shift in the balance of power in our favour which will enable us to win back the legitimate rights of our people.

Referring to the recent at the University of Jordan which students groups are with each other; Mr. Abu Sitta said the student had been arrested by the Jordanian police, trying to sow dissent among students and exploit their activities.

The PLO delegation to Damascus yesterday said Abu Sitta stayed until the

across the streets, posters, buses and ten thousand pamphlets explaining road signs, distributed with the help of students.

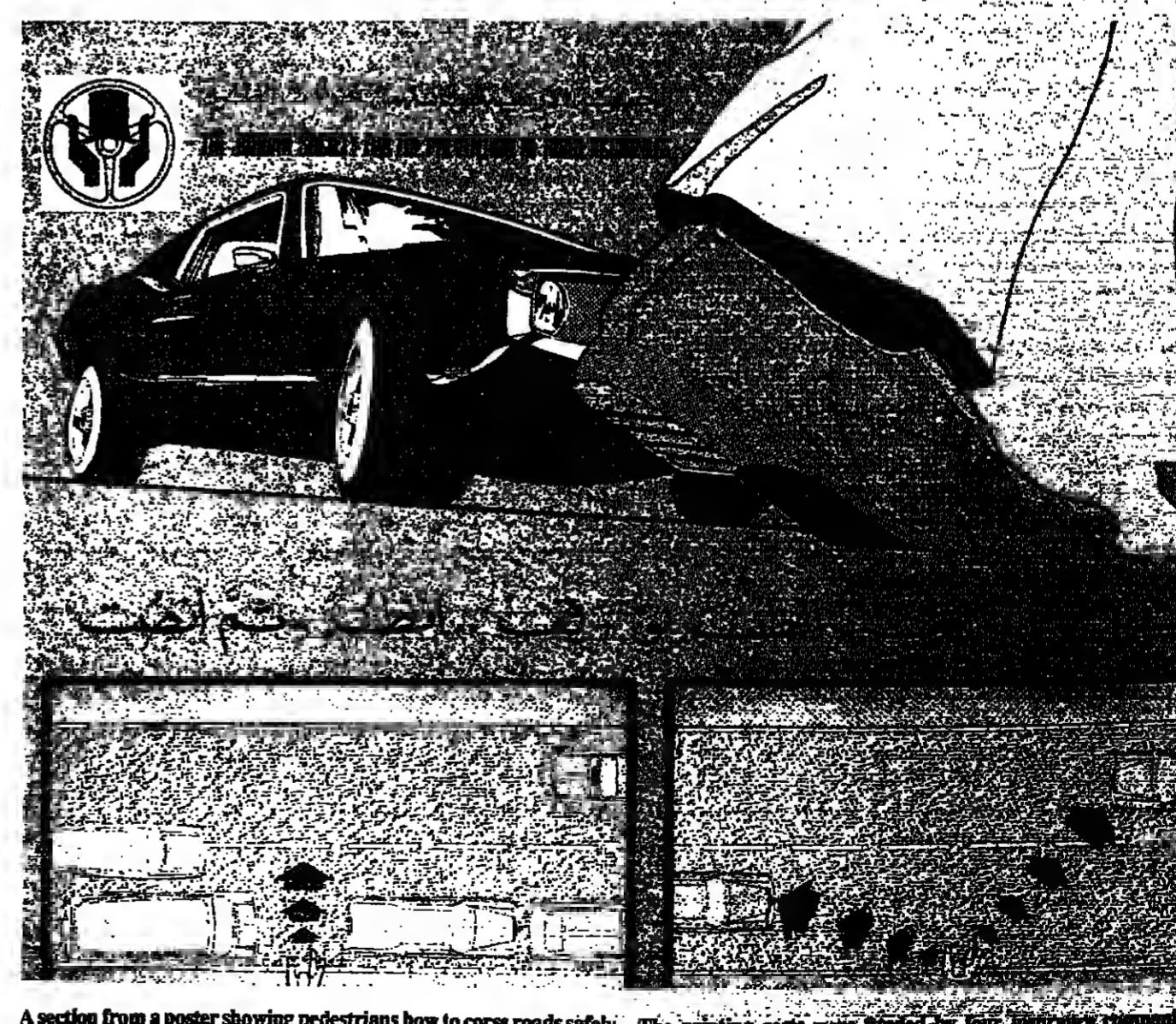
Summer is nearly here and with summer comes the inevitable increase in traffic, an additional thirty to forty thousand cars carrying tourists from the neighbouring countries. The worst months for accidents being July, August and September, the society is preparing a campaign to "go aggressively to the public," as Mr. Khouri put it. Already huge posters have been erected at the borders asking drivers to "drive carefully in Jordan and respect the traffic laws."

With International Traffic Day (May 4) only three weeks away, the society is now very busy with preparations. Last year the theme chosen was the necessity to dip headlights against oncoming traffic. Banners were displayed

across the streets, posters, buses and ten thousand pamphlets explaining road signs, distributed with the help of students.

Although there are no non-Jordanian members in the society, foreigners are invited to join and bring with them their countries.

The address is Amman Box 9480.



A section from a poster showing pedestrians how to cross roads safely. The printing costs were funded by four insurance companies distributed with the help of university students.

Jordan Weekly Calendar

(Week of April 13-19)
EXHIBITIONS

ING: The French Cultural Centre is displaying maps and measuring equipment. The exhibition has been organized by the Jordan National Geographic Centre in collaboration with the French Mapping Group. The exhibition can be viewed during regular hours until April 30. The exhibition at the Cultural Centre, the exhibition of photos on "The Space Research in the Soviet Union" is on until

April 17: The Soviet Culture Centre presents a show to commemorate the 109th birthday of Lenin.

JAY, April 18: The Department of Culture and Arts exhibition of paintings and other art work by the Centre for Music and Fine Arts. The exhibition is at the Art Gallery, Ministry of Culture and Youth until 4:00 p.m. from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 to 7:00

CONCERT

April 13: The American Centre presents a violin-piano duet by Henry Criz (violin) and Ljubomir Gasparovic (piano) in International Hotel Ballroom at 8:00 p.m.

et Cultural Centre, in cooperation with the Jordan Alumni Club, presents a concert by the children's choir

Art Centre at the Centre branch in Ruseifa. The

ins at 4:30 p.m.

THEATRE

April 16: The Department of Culture and Arts presents plays by Russian playwright Anton Chekov, the "Engagement" and the second is "Tim Song". The play is performed at the Jordan Theatre at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are at the theatre.

FILMS

April 13: The French Cultural Centre presents a film by and entitled "La tulie a l'oupe" (1966), starring Paul le Gueant, Gerard Darrieu and Marie-Helene Daste. in colour, French version with Arabic subtitles, and 40 p.m. Repeats are on Saturday and Sunday at the

April 15: The American Centre presents two films, the "Hollywood, the Dream Factory" at 6:00 p.m., and a feature film, "The Great Escape", starring Steve McQueen, at 7:00 p.m. Due to limited seating it is necessary to obtain tickets from the American advance. The films will be repeated on Monday and the same time.

April 17: The Goethe Institute presents a film entitled "Der Pest" (1970) by R.W. Fassbinder, starring Romy, Margarete von Trotta and Harry Baer. The film is in black and white and is subtitled in English. It starts at 7:00 p.m.

The feature film at the Goethe Institute is a documentary "Ein Bergarbeiter", which is an account by a miner in about his activities and involvement in work and labour

Y, April 19: The Goethe Institute presents a film by Hark Bohm entitled "Tschetan -- der Indianer" (1972), starring Marquard Bohm and Dschingis Khan. The film is in English and starts at 4:30 p.m. Recommended for children over eight years old.

SYNOPSIS

April 17: The French Cultural Centre presents a symposium entitled "Les principes d'élaboration géographiques." This symposium is being presented by experts from the National Geographic Institute of France, Christian Chenev and Marcel Marconnet. The starts at 6:30 p.m.

EASTER PARTY

April 13: The YWCA is holding a masquerade party for girls six to twelve to celebrate Easter, at 4:00 p.m. Interested in participating should bring a toy to give to the less fortunate children at a party to be held later this month.

FRIENDS OF ARCHAEOLOGY

NOTICE: A trip to Petra to visit architectural work underway has been organised for Sunday, April 15. It is open to the public, so those interested can reserve a bus (45 passenger limit) by April 15, by calling Dr. at ACOR, telephone number 44917. The price of the trip is JD 5, including horseback riding through the siq.

JORDAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

COMPANY	Par Value	Volume Traded	Last Buying Offer	Last Selling Offer	Closing Price
bleum Co.	JD 5,000	3,230	6,800	—	6,800
nt Factors	JD 10,000	5,766	14,080	14,100	14,100
aceutical Co.	JD 5,000	6,340	23,000	23,500	23,000
nk	JD 1,000	86	1,150	1,160	1,160
Bank	JD 1,000	646	1,030	1,050	1,030
Development and Co.	JD 1,000	2,328	2,580	2,600	2,580
ming Co.	JD 1,000	92	0,910	0,930	0,920
tricity Co.	JD 1,000	279	1,420	1,440	1,420
is Factories	JD 1,000	1,360	0,670	0,690	0,680
minum Co.	JD 1,000	654	0,930	0,940	0,930
Cardboard Factories	JD 1,000	155	0,830	—	0,850
e and Silicate Brick Co.	JD 5,000	8,500	—	4,500	4,250
k	JD 5,000	1,326	7,340	7,450	3,370
ian Bank	JD 5,000	10,706	6,650	6,750	6,650
nternational Hotels Co.	JD 1,000	293	0,680	0,700	0,690
ining and Weaving Co.	JD 1,000	710	0,700	0,720	0,710

re traded, Thursday, April 12: JD 42,571

er of shares traded: 11,159

it Development Bonds	Par Value	Volume Traded	Number Traded	Year of Maturity	Selling Price
re traded: JD 1,089,680	JD 10,000	51,400	5	1988	10,280

Central Bank bulletin shows

Housing construction drops in Amman rises in Zarqa

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, April 12 — The construction sector in Jordan continues to undergo structural changes in its rate of growth, according to statistics from the Central Bank of Jordan and the Housing Bank.

The Central Bank's latest Monthly Statistical Bulletin (dated January 1979), shows that the total area of newly licensed construction dropped last year for the first time in the past five years. The statistics show that a total of 3,143 construction permits were issued in 1978 for residential and commercial buildings in the Amman-Zarqa area, covering a total area of 694,800 square metres. This is a drop from 1977's total of 706,800 square metres.

A closer examination of the figures shows that housing construction in the Amman area has dropped for the third consecutive year, while it continues to rise sharply in Zarqa. In the past three years, the amount of newly licensed residential building in Amman has declined from 459,000 square metres to 439,000 square metres and again to 399,000 square metres last year. In Zarqa however, newly licensed residential buildings accounted for 118,000 square metres in 1976, 130,000 square metres in 1977 and 191,000 square metres last year.

The Central Bank statistics only cover the Amman and Zarqa regions, and thus do not give an accurate figure for new construction activity throughout Jordan. Taken together, however, they do indicate trends in the construction industry, as the natural slowdown in Amman construction in the wake of the boom of the past three years would be partly offset by the rise in new buildings in Zarqa and other outlying cities.

The figures also show that the total area of new residential buildings in Amman and Zarqa is being accounted for by fewer new units. While total residential area newly licensed in the Amman-Zarqa region has climbed from 577,000 square metres in 1976 to 590,000 square metres last year, the number of construction permits issued for this area has steadily declined, from 3,313 in 1976 to 2,807 last year. This indicates that the average size of new housing units in the Amman-Zarqa region is probably increasing. The figures would show that while the average size of a residential building in 1975 was 169 square metres, this has risen consistently to 174 square metres in 1976, to 201 square metres in 1977 and to 210 square metres last year.

The total residential and commercial area licensed in the Amman-Zarqa region last year is almost exactly double the comparative figure five years ago, or 694,800 square metres of construction area licensed in 1978 compared to 349,300 square metres licensed in 1974.

But while the statistics for new construction licenses indicate a drop for the Amman-Zarqa region, bank credit statistics indicate a sharp increase in lending for the country's construction, housing and real estate sector.

The Housing Bank's 1978 annual report shows that its outstanding loans rose by a very high 42 per cent last year to reach a total of JD 61 million. The bank granted 2,798 loans in 1978 worth a total of JD 22.7 million, com-

pared to 2,409 loans in 1977 worth JD 15.4 million.

The Central Bank bulletin shows an equally sharp increase in the amount of lending by commercial banks for construction and real estate sector, though this includes buying or constructing buildings.

These figures show that loans to the construction and real estate sector accounted for JD 100 million out of total outstanding bank loans of JD 332 million at the end of last year, or a full 30 per cent of all commercial bank credits. This compares to the construction and real estate sector's share of all outstanding commercial credits of 16 per cent during both 1977 and 1976.

If the Housing Bank's outstanding loans—all of which are for construction projects—are added to those of the commercial banks, then loans for construction and real estate would account for 48.5 per cent of all outstanding bank lending at the end of last year (compared to 38 per cent at the end of 1977).

This would indicate an unusually high percentage of Jordanian bank credits going into one sector. This is understandable, given the high demand for housing among Jordan's (typically Third World) young population, the rural-to-urban domestic migration pattern, the generally rising standard of living, the continuing exodus of West Bankers to the East Bank, and the overall construction requirements of the economy as the current five-year plan reaches its peak implementation period.

One of the positive signs in the statistics is the slowdown in construction in the Amman region, and the continuing construction growth in Zarqa and the provinces, a pattern that is very much encouraged by the government because it may indicate the gradual spread of economic activity more evenly throughout the country, instead of concentrating heavily in the Amman area.

UNRWA schools in the Amman region are divided broadly into zone one (Amman city) and two (outskirts of Amman including Zarqa and Marka).

There are 55 schools in zone one and 65 schools in zone two. Not all of them will be able to put on a separate show or exhibition, so a lot of the year's activities have been planned as group efforts with one or two plans for both zones to get together.

One of these activities will begin next Thursday when the girl guides from zone one will gather at the Amman Training Centre near Na'ur to spend a few days camping out and organising games.

The boy scouts will have their camping holiday later in the year, much later in fact, in September.

The next variety show will be at the Jabel Jofeh girls school on April 19. After that it will be the boys' turn; the Hashemiyah Boys School will put on an art exhibition and have a sports day on April 25. On April 30 the Hashemiyah Girls School will produce a variety show, and the May 3rd end of the school year celebrations at Amir Hassen girls School will be completely dedicated to International Year of the

Child.

The Jahal Nuzha Elementary Boys School will stage a book exhibition beginning on Sunday April 15. This exhibition will feature children's books in Arabic (mostly Jordanian) and will last one week. It will be open to the public between 8 a.m. and 12 noon.

So far 16 events have been planned by UNRWA schools for International Year of the Child, but the celebrations are not limited to Jordan. Each school is playing an active part in international events and art teachers have been busy gathering the work of their most talented pupils to send off to the numerous competitions they have been invited to join all over the world.

One 11 year old girl—Amal

UNRWA schools celebrate International

Year of the Child with a variety show

By Breda Finegan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, April 12—Pupils of the Jabel Nuzha Girls Elementary School Number Two demonstrated not only their acting talents but also their prowess in song, dance and mime on Wednesday in a variety show celebrating International Year of the Child.

Headmasters, headmistresses, teachers and officials of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) crowded into the small hall at the school at 10 a.m. where they were entertained with short plays and songs and served with cool drinks and cakes by the girls themselves.

In one of the other classrooms the walls were lined with paintings, drawings and needlework done by the girls, which was proudly shown off to the distinguished audience after the show.

The variety show began with a recital from the Quran and a little essay on child care, and went on to two comic sketches in English, a Pasa Doble and a dramatic piece of action based on a scene from Victor Hugo's Les Misérables, among other events.

Not once did the players forget their lines or give anything less than their wholehearted best, despite the fact that the microphone kept giving out an annoying buzz.

The teachers and heads of other schools also seemed to welcome the get together and talk.

At intervals a musical trio from the broadcasting station performed on the violin, oud and drum. The trio occasionally accompanied the acts & songs despite the fact that the girls' voices seemed to face quite well on their own.

Wednesday's variety show is typical of the kind of thing which will be put on by various schools throughout this year to mark the year of the child, Mr. Khalil Abu Shuwaish of the UNRWA education centre on Jabel Hussein told the Jordan Times.

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Last on the programme at the Jabel Nuzha variety show Wednesday was an act entitled "Palestine: Between hope and despair". The girl in the centre facing the audience wears the flag of Palestine while the surrounding group wears the traditional dress of villages which suffered massacres at the hands of the Israelis. The girls relate the story of Palestine and suggest solutions to their plight as refugees.



On a lighter note the girls perform the lively Spanish Pasa Doble in brightly coloured crepe skirts. (Photos by Yousef Alaa)

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European football semi-finals

COLOGNE, April 12 (R) -- Yasuhiro Okudera, the first Japanese soccer player to become a star in West Germany, grabbed the European Cup glory last night with a vital goal for Cologne against English champions Nottingham Forest. Okudera, discovered in the Far East by Cologne coach Hennes Weisweiler, equalised in the 80th minute as the West Germans drew 3-3 at Nottingham in a pulsating semi-final clash.

Malmö's goalless away draw against Austria Wien in Vienna might have lacked the drama of Cologne's effort, but it was another magnificent performance by the Swedish champions. "Malmö are extremely hard to play against," Hermann Stessl, Wien's coach, admitted ruefully after this other European Cup semi-final tie. Austrian international Herbert Prohaska tried desperately to get his side going but Malmö countered every time.

In the Cup Winners' Cup Fortuna Düsseldorf, trailing 1-0 to Czechoslovakia's Baník Ostrava at half-time, roared back after the interval to win 5-1, while in Spain Barcelona began nervously against Belgium's Beveren before squeezing a 1-0 victory with a 66th minute penalty.

MSV Duisburg and Borussia Mönchengladbach fought out a 2-2 draw in an all-German European Football Union (UEFA) semi-final on Tuesday night. Last night Hertha Berlin, West Germany's third team in the last four of the UEFA cup, lost 1-0 away to Yugoslavia's Red Star Belgrade.

Baseball Standings

American League

EAST		W	L	Pct.	GB
Milwaukee	3	1	.750	1/2	
Baltimore	3	2	.600	1/2	
Boston	2	2	.500	1	
New York	2	3	.400	1 1/2	
Detroit	1	2	.333	1 1/2	
Toronto	1	3	.250	2	
Cleveland	1	4	.200	2 1/2	

WEST		W	L	Pct.	GB
Texas	3	0	1.000	—	
Minnesota	4	1	.800	—	
Kansas City	4	1	.800	—	
Seattle	4	3	.571	1	
California	3	3	.500	1 1/2	
Chicago	1	3	.250	2 1/2	
Oakland	1	5	.161	3 1/2	

Wednesday's games

Toronto at Chicago, postponed.
Baltimore 6, New York 5, 10 innings.
Kansas City 10, Detroit 3.
Texas 4, Cleveland 0.
Oakland 14, Seattle 7

Basketball playoffs

NEW YORK, April 12 (AP) — The Houston Rockets can't stand too much of a good thing — namely winning. The Rockets, who had won their last seven regular-season games to get the home-court advantage in the opening game of their best-of-three series with Atlanta, lost to the Hawks 109-106 Wednesday night in the National Basketball Association playoffs. New Jersey Nets coach Kevin Loughery often feels his situation is futile, where refereeing is concerned. The Nets lost to the Philadelphia 76ers 122-114 after their coach was ejected from the game. The volatile Loughery, who was assessed 42 technical fouls during the regular season, got two more Wednesday night and was ousted with 7:32 left in the third period. "It's a league rule that you can't talk about officiating," he complained later. "But I think we should be able to talk about officiating." With Wednesday's games, all four NBA Divisions had played their first games. Action resumes Friday with the Rockets and Hawks moving to Atlanta and the Sixers and Nets going to Piscataway. On Friday the Phoenix Suns join the Trail Blazers in Portland and the Denver Nuggets visiting the Los Angeles Lakers. Phoenix beat Portland 107-103 Tuesday, while Denver downed Los Angeles 110-105 that night.

U.S. basketball team beats Peking

PEKING April 12, (R) — The United States national men's basketball team last night beat the Peking City team 103-78 in the second of three games the team is scheduled to play here.

Disco hustle

Disco music is everywhere and business is booming for the record companies which have woken up to the fact that people want to dance.

By Anton Graham

LONDON — Disco music has suddenly become the record industry's biggest money spinner, changing in little more than a year from a minority interest to one of the fastest-selling forms of music in the world.

In Britain, new discotheques where young people go to dance to the latest hits open each week and disco magazines aimed both at the fans and at the industry are appearing constantly. Discos are being set up in converted music clubs, cinemas and even village church halls all over the country, and sales of disco equipment — turntables, speakers and the rest — are booming.

Not since the days of the Twist in the early 1960s have the record companies attempted to exploit a very important fact: teenagers like to dance.

The present craze for disco was given a gigantic push by the monster success of the film "Saturday Night Fever," starring John Travolta and produced by Robert Stigwood, which cleaned up at the box office last year.

But more important still was the film's soundtrack album, featuring the Bee Gees and others which to date has sold about 20 million copies worldwide, grossing some £140m. It is by far the biggest-selling record of all time despite the fact that it is a double album costing twice as much as a single record.

The Saturday Night Fever record's success was also amazing because it is really little more than a good compilation album: there are only five previously unreleased songs on it, all written by the Bee Gees.

And it was the Bee Gees' songs which stuck in the

public's mind, especially "Stayin' Alive" and "Night Fever." On the basis of those two songs and a couple of earlier hits, the three Gibb brothers from Australia were acclaimed as the kings of disco and became overnight the world's most bankable pop group.

The roots of disco are hard to trace. Tamla Motown in the 1960s was certainly dancing music and men like James Brown and Wilson Pickett were tapping the market which is now disco. But disco proper did not begin till about 1975.

The dance which started it was the Hustle. Van McCoy, George Macrae and Silver Convention — the first of the German produced disco bands — led the initial disco wave along with K.C. and the Sunshine Band, True Connection, and a host of others.

But it was Night Fever which brought disco to a wider audience, putting it on the map to the extent that it now challenges standard pop music for worldwide sales.

In 1978, the Bee Gees monopolised the number one position in record charts around the world and their record company, RSO, previously a minor, though respected, London-based firm, dominated world record sales, not only with Saturday Night Fever, but also with the soundtrack from the film "Grease" and records from the Bee Gees' younger brother, Andy Gibb.

But displaying a remarkable lack of greed for a commercial enterprise, RSO refused to follow up its success with Saturday Night Fever by throwing everything it had into the ever-expanding disco market.

The Bee Gees are still the only act amongst RSO's select roster of artists which could be called disco, and the group would certainly resent being



Saturday Night Fever star John Travolta (See photo).

labelled as nothing more than a disco band.

The third film on RSO's set, following "Fever" and "Grease," is "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," starring the Bee Gees and British-born Peter Frampton, who became a rock idol in the U.S. a couple of years ago.

The film has done comparatively badly at the box office and was panned by the critics, as was Travolta's third movie for Robert Stigwood, "Moment By Moment," which has already been released in the U.S.

Future projects planned by RSO include a couple more films, a kid's version of "Saturday Night Fever" without the four-letter words (the original film was X-rated) which mean the younger teenagers buying the album could not get in to see it), and further albums from the Bee Gees and Andy Gibb. But they have no plans to introduce other disco artists to cash in on the continuing boom.

Most of the best disco-music is produced by black Americans, but it has also provided an opportunity for Germans to become a force to be reckoned with in the top pop world for the first time.

Silver Convention, Boney M. and Donna Summer are just three of the acts that have been

produced in West Germany where disco records are emphasising the meaning of the music.

Even Moscow audiences were recently treated to a film of "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," starring the Bee Gees and British-born Peter Frampton, who became a rock idol in the U.S. a couple of years ago.

Almost all the German music is produced with lyrics, but it is also nationalised, simplified the language, and the music is often repetitive and meaningless.

The record industry whole is convinced the disco boom has yet to peak. The music is suited to radio stations, ramming which means the all-play necessary to record a hit, and the companies sometimes press enough copies of discs to keep pace with demand.

But how long will it last?

Disco is here to stay, predicted one Phoenix executive, confidently: "People go to disco now, go to football matches,"

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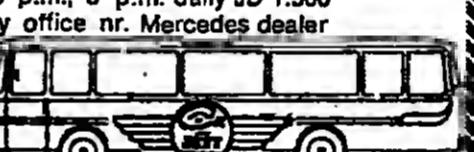
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Developing nations complain: Lengthy 99-nation trade negotiations have produced little

GENEVA, April 12 (R) — Developing countries complained yesterday that five-and-a-half years of negotiations to free the flow of world trade had brought only modest results and left many problems unsolved.

Yugoslav delegate Dr. Petar Tomic accused industrialised states of persisting in a conservative approach, and said that through lack of political will they had ignored many proposals by Third World countries for expanding trade.

He was addressing a meeting of the 99-nation Trade Negotiations Committee of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The meeting was convened to endorse a package of

Cyprus: News of 2 leaders' plan to meet draws cautious response

NICOSIA, April 12 (R) — Cypriots reacted cautiously yesterday to the news that President Spyros Kyprianou will meet Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash next month in an effort to solve inter-communal problems on this divided Mediterranean island.

The caution was due partly to the fact that no date has been set for the meeting which could mean a major breakthrough in attempts to reach a settlement. Inter-communal talks have been suspended for two years.

Both sides yesterday confirmed their leaders have agreed to a meeting, but stressed that the date has yet to be announced by United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim.

Another reason for caution is the history of failures during the past two years to bring both sides to the negotiating table.

Mr. Waldheim is expected to spend three days on the island. His aim will be to persuade the two leaders to agree on a basis for the resumption of inter-communal talks.

Economic News Briefs

Yamani confirms lower oil production ceiling

LONDON, April 12 (R) — Saudi Oil Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani confirmed yesterday that Saudi Arabia had withdrawn an extra one million barrels of crude oil a day it had put on the market during the first three months of this year to help compensate a shortfall in Iranian exports. In an interview with the Arabic-language newspaper *Asharq Al-Awsat* in London, he said the Saudi Government decided to increase its production "on an exceptional basis during the first three months of this year when it averaged 9.5 million barrels a day." This was one million barrels above the 8.5 million barrel production ceiling decided by the Saudi Government "many years ago," he said. Sheikh Yamani said the exceptional circumstances ended at the end of March and there was no need at the moment for an increase in production "since Iran has succeeded in raising its production to about four million barrels a day."

Calcutta power crisis begins to improve

CALCUTTA, April 12 (R) — Electricity supplies in West Bengal improved yesterday as large factories in the state capital, Calcutta, suspended production for a week. The crisis was caused by breakdowns in two power stations and as a result domestic consumers, hospitals and railways have been given priority over heavy industry. Shops have been ordered to close by seven every evening and suburban railway services have been disrupted.

ILO to examine ills of air traffic controllers

GENEVA, April 12 (R) — The International Labour Organisation (ILO) announced yesterday it would hold a meeting at its headquarters in Geneva next month to look at the problems of air traffic controllers. These range from chronic staff shortages, pay, pensions, health, stress and legal responsibility if anything goes wrong, the ILO said. Experts on these problems would submit a report to the ILO's governing body after the meeting. The ILO said the report would be a basis for future action by the organisation. Strikes and go-slows in several countries since 1973 had caused hundreds of flights to be cancelled or delayed, the ILO reported.

OPEC denies using 'two-tier price system'

VIENNA, April 12 (R) — The headquarters of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) yesterday denied reports that it had decided not to apply last month's 14.5 per cent oil price rise to developing countries. "We do not have a two-tier prices system," OPEC spokesman Hamid Zaheri said. He said the question of charging poorer countries only the basic price for oil had not been discussed at a meeting of OPEC ministers in Geneva last month which fixed the latest price hike. "We do not have such a policy," he said.

Giscard d'Estaing: Greece will strengthen EEC

PARIS, April 12 (R) — French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing will attend the signing of the agreement for Greece's entry into the European Common Market in Athens in late May, presidential spokesman Pierre Hunt said yesterday. The president, who has backed Greek efforts to become the tenth member of the European Community, expressed his satisfaction at a cabinet meeting at the successful conclusion of negotiations. "The president said that Greece's entry into the Community, owing to the incomparable contribution of Hellenic civilisation to Europe's culture, will strengthen the continent's cultural influence as well as the democratic ideal which inspires it," Mr. Hunt said. Foreign Minister Jean Francois Poncelet reported to the cabinet on the final negotiations in Brussels between the Nine and the Greek Government. Greece is due to join the EEC on Jan. 1, 1981.

negotiations, and to initial and authenticate the various agreements. Final approval and signature is tentatively scheduled for later this year, probably in October.

Key partners in the bargaining were the world's three major trading powers — the United States, Japan and the nine-nation European Economic Community (EEC).

Referring to an EEC demand that it be allowed to impose selective import restrictions against individual states whose goods disrupt home markets, Dr. Tomic said: "we were faced with unacceptable discrimination."

Present GATT rules stipulate that import curbs must apply to all suppliers. Third World nations oppose selective restrictions because they fear they will be the main targets.

Dr. Tomic criticised another accord revising the rules of GATT to give preferential treatment to developing countries as poor, imprecise and open to many ambiguous interpretations.

"Additional benefits for the trade of the developing countries can hardly be identified," he said.

A code to open up government purchasing to foreign suppliers was worded in such a way that a number of developing states would be unable to accede to it, he added.

NATO to set up special group to study nuclear arms control

BRUSSELS, April 12 (R) — NATO has decided to set up a special group to study the arms control aspects of nuclear systems, NATO Secretary-General Joseph Luns said yesterday.

The group, established at the initiative of West Germany, will make preliminary studies



ROME — Architect Paolo Portoghesi has carried out the project of a mosque which will be built in Rome's "Monte Acetone" quarter. Mr. Portoghesi says that after some bureaucratic difficulties his project was approved. (Gamma photo)

USSR cancels 2 cosmonauts' planned link-up with Salyut-6

MOSCOW, April 12 (R) — The Soviet Union announced today that a planned docking between a manned spaceship and the orbiting Salyut-6 space laboratory had been cancelled after the failure of direction control rockets.

The announcement was issued through the official Tass News Agency and Moscow Radio several hours after the ship-the Soyuz-33 with a Russian and a Bulgarian on board—had been due to carry out the delicate operation.

Yesterday, in a break with the usual Soviet secrecy about space mission plans, Tass reported that the link-up with Salyut, where two other Soviet cosmonauts were waiting for their colleagues, would be cancelled, the official agency added.

Today's failure was preceded by a run of successes for Soviet space

Baikonur Cosmodrome had been hailed in Moscow and Sofia as a new major triumph of Soviet science and a demonstration of cooperation between the communist countries.

Tass said today the Soyuz, created by Russian civilian engineer Nikolai Rukavishnikov and Bulgarian Air Force Major Georgi Ivanov, began to approach the Salyut at 1854 GMT last night.

"But in the process of approach there arose deviations from the regular mode of operations of the approach-correction power unit of the Soyuz-33 and the link-up with the Salyut-6 was cancelled," the official agency added.

Today's failure was preceded by a run of successes for Soviet space

research over the past year and appeared unlikely to represent

any major setback to the programme. The planned docking last night would have been the 13th by manned and unmanned craft with Salyut-6, which has been in orbit since September 1977.

Two Soviet cosmonauts, Mr. Alexander Ivanchenkov and Mr. Vladimir Kovalyonok, established a new world space endurance record of nearly 139 days on board the station last year. Its present crew, Mr. Valery Ryumin and Mr. Vladimir Lyakhov, have been carrying out experiments inside the station since Feb. 25.

The Soyuz-33 craft, carrying the 49th and 50th cosmonauts to blast off from Baikonur, would have docked with Salyut on the 18th anniversary of the world's first space flight made by air force pilot Yuri Gagarin.

Amin's rule has led to economic collapse

Uganda's fall from boom to bust

NAIROBI, April 12 (R) — Under the rule of President Idi Amin, Uganda's once-thriving economy has crumbled. Internal prices have soared, and the free market rate for Uganda's currency is now about ten Ugandan shillings for one Kenyan shilling. It was once at par.

As the biggest coffee producer in the Commonwealth, with a big export trade in cotton, tea and copper, Uganda had no difficulty in finding foreign exchange to pay for its imports before President Amin seized power in a military coup in 1971.

Today Uganda's foreign exchange reserves are virtually exhausted. Imports of goods of all kinds are drastically restricted because there is no cash to pay for them.

Most foreign suppliers will no longer give credit to Uganda and insist on cash in advance before shipping goods to Uganda. Britain's Export Credit Guarantee Department no longer provides guarantees for British goods supplied to Uganda.

Late last year the United States Government imposed an embargo on trade with Uganda in protest against human rights violations under President Amin's rule. Because of its large purchase of Ugandan coffee, the United States had for many years been Uganda's biggest customer.

Uganda's coffee production has fallen only slightly, because its trees continue to produce crops year after year, but many farmers do not bother to pick all the coffee, because the official price paid to them in Ugandan shillings does not meet costs.

Cotton production slumped from more than 400,000 bales in 1972 to less than 100,000 bales in each of the last two seasons. Tea has fallen from 23,400 tonnes in 1972 to about 15,000 tonnes, and sugar from 141,000 tonnes in 1971 to 12,000 tonnes.

The main reason for the fall in production of cash crops has been the reluctance of Ugandan farmers to grow them. They say they do not get paid for the crops they deliver to the state marketing board.

But they are also hampered by a lack of basic supplies, including hand hoes and other implements, insecticides and fertilisers. All are in short supply and when available are sold at very high prices.

Farmers find it more profitable to grow food that can be sold, again at high prices, to other Ugandans.

One of the biggest blows to the Ugandan economy was President Amin's expulsion of Asians in 1972. More than 40,000 Asians, including some of the country's best business brains, were ordered out over a three-month period.

The industries, professional businesses and properties which they owned were "allocated" to Ugandan Africans, many of whom had no business experience. The result was that most of the businesses collapsed or were reduced to a small fraction of their former activity.

Uganda's once-thriving cotton textile industry is now working at less than a third of its former capacity.

Prices in Uganda soared because of shortages of all kinds. Most shops in Kampala have closed, their stocks exhausted in the final week in which the capital was effectively besieged by the invading forces.

Because of the shortage of foreign exchange, a thriving smuggling trade has developed between Uganda and Kenya. Ugandan goods, ranging from bananas to coffee and cotton, are smuggled across the border and sold in Kenya — the money then used to buy goods unobtainable in Uganda, and these goods are smuggled into Uganda.

With no anti-nuclear lobby to worry about, the Soviet Union is rapidly developing atomic power for electricity and a variety of other peaceful uses.

The Soviet press, which does not report on individual blasts, has said nuclear explosions have been used for earth-moving, canal digging, the construction of underground oil and gas reservoirs and for mining and excavation.

Prominent Soviet physicists have said publicly and privately that they believe the public in the West is being unnecessarily frightened about the dangers of nuclear power.

Decisions are taken centrally in the Soviet Union and the organisation of Soviet society precludes public debate on issues such as nuclear power or supersonic transport.

The official media have been careful not to depict anti-nuclear protests in the West as linked to mass unease or left-wing organisations.

Nevertheless some Western experts believe the Kremlin has had to contend with a groundswell of anxiety from ordinary Russians.

Officials at the Novovoronezh power station, a multi-reactor installation in south Russia turning out about 2.4 million kilowatts, told visiting reporters in 1977 that letters flooded in from local people alarmed at the news that their area had been chosen as a nuclear site.

Carter seeks emergency aid of \$100m. for Turkey

WASHINGTON, April 12 (R) — President Carter yesterday asked Congress to provide \$100 million in emergency aid to help Turkey cope with internal economic problems.

Mr. Carter said he would ask Congress for \$150 million in economic and military aid as part of a special fund for Turkey agreed to by the United States, France, Britain and West Germany at the January summit in Guadeloupe.

West Germany promised to take the lead in organising the fund, the president noted at a news conference.

The draft legislation sent to Congress requests \$100 million for immediate economic assistance. The other \$50 million, which the president is expected to request very soon, would be in the form of major non-combat industrial nations to Turkey.

Turkey in recent months has been in the process of negotiating a loan from the IMF. The IMF declined to comment on reports that the negotiations were in trouble because Turkey was refusing to disclose details of the measures it has promised to take for the economy.

The \$150 million economic and military aid would be in addition to \$225 million in military credits.

Zambia reports 100 refugees killed in Rhodesian air raid

LUSAKA, Zambia, April 12 (AP) — One hundred refugees were killed and 200 injured in an attack by Rhodesian jet aircraft on a refugee camp at Solwezi, a Zambian Government spokesman today. The spokesman gave no further details on last night's raid and condemned what he called wanton attacks on innocent and helpless people.

The Rhodesian military command confirmed that warplanes had flown 500 kilometers into Zambia to attack a complex of guerrilla bases, but did not say whether there were casualties. The military denied Zambian reports that the planes hit at refugees in a no-man's land.

The raid was the third officially acknowledged crossborder this week, and the sixth Zambian target hit this month. The raid came in the face of threats by Zambian-based guerrilla leader Ndola and Mozambique-based Robert Mugabe to sabotage week's parliamentary elections inside Rhodesia.

The latest strike was the deepest reported into Zambia since military command ordered cross-border raids against guerrilla bases in Angola, Mozambique and Zambia in August 1976.

Rhodesia's combined operations headquarters reported: "Attacks have been carried out on a large complex of ZIPRA bases some 100 kilometers west of Solwezi in Zambia. Close to the terrorist camps is the Meleha refugee camp which was not affected."

The attack, believed to have been launched overnight by a British-built jet aircraft, came as Rhodesia mobilised some 500 reserve and regular security forces against the guerrillas three weeks before elections over five days next week.

The guerrillas, fighting a six-year war for total control of the territory, have vowed to step up their operations and topple the government under a black prime minister and a black majority.

Carter sets up commission to probe nuclear accident

WASHINGTON, April 12 (R) — President Carter yesterday set up an 11-member commission to investigate the nuclear accident at the Three Mile Island power plant in Pennsylvania and said it was essential Americans should never again face such dangers.

The commission, chaired by mathematician John Kemeny, includes the governor of Arizona, a professor of nuclear engineering, the president of the Steelworkers Union and a housewife from Middletown, near the atomic plant.

Mr. Carter said the task facing the panel was one of the most important ever undertaken by a presidential commission.

It is essential that we learn the causes of this accident and make sure that the safety of our own

citizens is never again endangered in this way," he said.

Mr. Carter himself visited the plant just four days after a fire in reactor's cooling system and the accident, threatening radiation leaks and causing the evacuation of residents within an eight-kilometre radius.

The order setting up the commission said it would assess events of the accident, analyse the role of the company operating the plant and the emergency preparedness of the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission and other authorities.

It would also determine steps should be taken during nuclear emergencies to provide public with accurate and timely information.

Western visitors are frequently taken right up to Soviet reactors without special precautions.

The Russians have indeed problems in one area of nuclear technology — the problem of waste disposal.

Soviet practice has been to radioactive waste in cement and asphalt blocks underground.

But the growth of fast-breeding reactors, which generate plutonium fuel, has posed problems that have yet to be solved. Soviet publications said.

In addition to its own fast reactors, the Soviet Union has reprocessing from Russian-built reactors operating in East European countries.

In the 1950s Soviet plants gave nuclear power a lower energy density than their Western counterparts because of the cost of fuel imports of oil, gas and coal.

But policy was changed radically in the sixties when the Soviet Union started to expand its economy, especially its energy resources.

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